

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- v. -

JOSEPH PERCOCO,
a/k/a "Herb,"
ALAIN KALOYEROS,
a/k/a "Dr. K,"
PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR.,
a/k/a "Braith,"
STEVEN AIELLO,
JOSEPH GERARDI,
LOUIS CIMINELLI,
MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and
KEVIN SCHULER,

Defendants.

INDICTMENT

16 CRIM 776

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OVERVIEW

1. As described more fully below, the charges in this Indictment stem from two wide-ranging and overlapping criminal schemes involving bribery, corruption, and fraud in the award of hundreds of millions of dollars in New York State (the "State") contracts and other official benefits. The first scheme concerned the payment of hundreds of thousands of dollars as directed by STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, to Todd Howe, who, among other things, was an agent and representative of SUNY Polytechnic Institute ("SUNY Poly"), a State-funded

JUDGE CAPRONI

public university. In exchange, Howe worked with ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, who was the head of SUNY Poly, to secretly rig the bidding process for State contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars in favor of the companies owned and managed by AIELLO, GERARDI, CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER. The second scheme involved the payment of hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes by two of Howe's clients - the company run by AIELLO and GERARDI, and an energy company, for which PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, the defendant, was the head of External Affairs - to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, who served as the Executive Deputy Secretary to the Governor of the State, in exchange for PERCOCO's assistance in obtaining official State action, including benefits worth millions of dollars to the clients.

RELEVANT INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES

New York State Government and the Office of the Governor

2. The State's executive branch is headed by the Governor, who serves as the State's chief executive, managing various State agencies, including those charged with overseeing economic development, environmental conservation, transportation and energy. The Governor's closest advisors and aides are referred to as working in the "Executive Chamber." In each year relevant to this Indictment, the government of the State

received funds from the federal government in excess of \$10,000 per year.

SUNY Poly and Fort Schuyler

3. SUNY Poly is a public institution of higher education that is part of the New York State University system (the "SUNY System"). The SUNY System is funded in part by the State, and also receives federal funds in excess of \$10,000 per year.

4. In or around 2009, Fort Schuyler Management Corporation ("Fort Schuyler") was created as a non-profit real estate corporation affiliated with SUNY Poly that could enter into contracts with private companies on SUNY Poly's behalf, for the purpose of carrying out development projects paid for with State funding. Fort Schuyler was governed by a Board of Directors, which, among other things, was charged with selecting private companies to partner with Fort Schuyler in SUNY Poly-related development projects. Certain public funding for SUNY Poly came through the Research Foundation for the State University of New York (the "Research Foundation"), which paid the salaries of many individuals associated with SUNY Poly and Fort Schuyler, including ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, and Todd Howe (as a retained consultant), during the times relevant to this Indictment. During each year relevant to

this Indictment, the Research Foundation received more than \$10,000 in federal funding.

Todd Howe

5. Todd Howe has held several public positions, including working for the Governor of the State of New York when the Governor was United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for the Former Governor (the father of the Governor) when the Former Governor was Governor of New York.

6. During all times relevant to this Indictment, Howe was the president and primary employee of a government relations and lobbying firm (the "Government Relations Firm").

7. Beginning in or about 2012, Howe was retained as a consultant to the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering ("CNSE"). CNSE was a public institution of higher education that was funded in part by the State. In or around September 2014, CNSE merged with the State University of New York Institute of Technology to become a new public university known as the SUNY Polytechnic Institute ("SUNY Poly"). In his role as a consultant for CNSE and SUNY Poly (hereinafter, "SUNY Poly"), Howe served as a close advisor to ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, who was the head of SUNY Poly at all times relevant to this Indictment. Howe acted as an agent of SUNY Poly with respect to, among other things, SUNY Poly's

development projects, including large, State-funded development projects in Syracuse and Buffalo, New York. Howe also served as a primary liaison between SUNY Poly and the Governor's senior staff.

8. At various times relevant to this Indictment, Howe also was retained by and received payments from (a) a large real estate development firm located in Syracuse, New York (the "Syracuse Developer"); (b) a large Buffalo-based construction and development company (the "Buffalo Developer"); and (c) a privately-owned electric power generation development and asset management company (the "Energy Company").

ALAIN KALOYEROS

9. ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, served as the head of SUNY Poly at all times relevant to this Indictment. KALOYEROS also served as a member of the Board of Directors of Fort Schuyler. KALOYEROS selected and provided direction to Fort Schuyler's officers and others working on behalf of Fort Schuyler.

STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, and the Syracuse Developer

10. At all times relevant to this Indictment, the Syracuse Developer, through various corporate affiliates, built, owned, and managed real estate in and around New York State. In or around December 2013, the Syracuse Developer was awarded a

contract with Fort Schuyler to serve as the preferred developer for projects of SUNY POLY to be created in Syracuse, New York. This contract permitted the Syracuse Developer to be chosen for SUNY Poly development projects of any size in or around Syracuse without further competitive bidding, and, indeed, shortly thereafter, the Syracuse Developer received a contract worth approximately \$15 million to build a film studio, and in or around October 2015, the Syracuse Developer received a contract worth approximately \$90 million to build a manufacturing plant, both in Syracuse, New York.

11. STEVEN AIELLO, the defendant, was a founder of the Syracuse Developer and has been its President since in or about 1998.

12. JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendant, was a founder of the Syracuse Developer and has been its General Counsel since in or about 1998.

*LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, KEVIN SCHULER, and
the Buffalo Developer*

13. At all times relevant to this Indictment, the Buffalo Developer provided construction management and general contracting services on various public and private projects in the State. In or around January 2014, the Buffalo Developer was named by Fort Schuyler as a preferred developer for projects of

SUNY Poly to be built in Buffalo, New York. This award permitted the Buffalo Developer to be chosen for SUNY Poly development projects of any size in or around Buffalo without further competitive bidding, and, indeed, in or around March 2014, as a result of its position as a preferred developer, the Buffalo Developer received a contract worth approximately \$225 million to build a manufacturing plant in Buffalo, New York. That contract ultimately expanded to be worth approximately \$750 million.

14. LOUIS CIMINELLI, the defendant, was the Chairman and CEO of the Buffalo Developer, and served in that role at all times relevant to this Indictment.

15. MICHAEL LAIPPLE, the defendant, was the President of a division of the Buffalo Developer that focused, among other things, on initiatives involving public-private infrastructure projects, and served in that role at all times relevant to this Indictment.

16. KEVIN SCHULER, the defendant, was a Senior Vice President for the Buffalo Developer, and served in that role at all times relevant to this Indictment.

PETER GALBRAITH KELLY and the Energy Company

17. As is relevant to this Indictment, since in or about 2008, the Energy Company had been working to develop a

power plant in Wawayanda, New York (the "New York Power Plant"), that was estimated to cost approximately \$900 million. At around the same time, the Energy Company also was developing a Power Plant in New Jersey (the "New Jersey Power Plant").

18. At all times relevant to this Indictment, PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," the defendant, was the Senior Vice President of External Affairs at the Energy Company.

JOSEPH PERCOCO

19. In or about January 2011, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, was appointed to be the Executive Deputy Secretary to the Governor. As Executive Deputy Secretary, PERCOCO worked in the Executive Chamber and was a high-ranking, senior, and influential part of the Governor's Executive staff. PERCOCO also had a longstanding personal relationship with the Governor and the Governor's family, and was generally seen as the Governor's "right-hand man," who coordinated access to the Governor and often spoke for him on a broad array of substantive and administrative matters. PERCOCO also served as a primary "gatekeeper" of opportunities to speak or meet with the Governor, oversaw logistics of the Governor's events and travel, and supervised appointments and administrative matters for the Executive Chamber. During all times relevant to this Indictment, PERCOCO's primary work location was in Manhattan,

New York, although he typically traveled to Albany, New York approximately several times per month and was an almost constant presence with the Governor during the Governor's official duties.

20. On or about April 21, 2014, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, officially left New York State employment to serve as campaign manager for the Governor's reelection campaign, and returned to State employment on or about December 8, 2014. However, during the time period that PERCOCO was the manager of the Governor's reelection campaign, he continued to function in a senior advisory and supervisory role with regard to the Governor's Office, and continued to be involved in the hiring of staff and the coordination of the Governor's official events and priorities, and to travel with the Governor on official business, among other responsibilities. PERCOCO permanently left his position as Executive Deputy Secretary in or about January 2016.

21. JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, has known Todd Howe since PERCOCO was a college student, when HOWE hired PERCOCO to work for the Former Governor.

THE BUFFALO BILLION FRAUD AND BRIBERY SCHEME

22. As part of the first criminal scheme alleged in

this Indictment, Todd Howe arranged for the Syracuse Developer, at the direction of STEVEN AIELLO and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, and the Buffalo Developer, at the direction of LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, to obtain official State favors through Howe's position at SUNY Poly. More specifically, in exchange for hundreds of thousands of dollars in payments to Howe from the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer, respectively, Howe and ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, devised a plan to secretly rig Fort Schuyler's bidding process so that State contracts that were ultimately worth hundreds of millions of dollars would be awarded to the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer.

23. As part of their plan, Todd Howe and ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," the defendant, had Fort Schuyler issue two requests for proposals (the "RFPs"), one for Syracuse (the "Syracuse RFP") and one for Buffalo (the "Buffalo RFP"), that would give the appearance of an open competition to choose "preferred developers" in Syracuse and Buffalo, respectively. However, the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer had been preselected by Howe and KALOYEROS to become the preferred developers, after the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer had each made sizeable contributions to the Governor

and had begun paying Howe in exchange for Howe's influence over the RFP processes. These preferred developer contracts were particularly lucrative for the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer, as the Syracuse Developer and the Buffalo Developer were then entitled to be awarded future development contracts of any size in Syracuse or Buffalo, respectively, without additional competitive bidding, and thus without competing on price or qualifications for particular projects.

24. To carry out their criminal scheme, Todd Howe and ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," provided secret information concerning the Syracuse RFP and Buffalo RFP to STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, including advance copies of the RFPs that were provided to no other developers, and, in the case of the Buffalo RFP, provided CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER with the location and purpose of the first preferred developer project - information that was provided to no other developer. Howe and KALOYEROS also worked with AIELLO and GERARDI to secretly tailor the Syracuse RFP to include qualifications that would favor the Syracuse Developer in Fort Schuyler's selection process for the Syracuse RFP; and worked with CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER to secretly tailor the Buffalo RFP to

include qualifications that would favor the Buffalo Developer in Fort Schuyler's selection process for the Buffalo RFP.

25. As part of their criminal scheme, Todd Howe and ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, deceived and concealed material information from Fort Schuyler and its Board of Directors in the following ways, among others:

a. KALOYEROS falsely represented to Fort Schuyler that the bidding processes for the Syracuse RFP and the Buffalo RFP were fair, open, and competitive, when in truth and in fact, KALOYEROS and Howe had predetermined that the Syracuse Developer would be awarded the Syracuse RFP and the Buffalo Developer would be awarded the Buffalo RFP.

b. The Syracuse Developer falsely certified that no one was retained, employed, or designated by or on behalf of the Syracuse Developer to attempt to influence the procurement process, when, in truth and in fact, the Syracuse Developer had retained Howe to influence the procurement process.

c. The Buffalo Developer falsely certified that no one was retained, employed, or designated by or on behalf of the Buffalo Developer to attempt to influence the procurement process, when, in truth and in fact, the Buffalo

Developer had retained Howe to influence the procurement process.

26. As a result of the criminal conduct alleged herein, the Syracuse Developer was awarded two State contracts worth a total of approximately \$105 million, and the Buffalo Developer was awarded a State contract that was ultimately worth approximately \$750 million.

The PERCOCO Bribery Scheme

27. The second scheme alleged in this Indictment involved Todd Howe arranging for two of his clients - the Syracuse Developer and the Energy Company - to pay bribes to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in exchange for PERCOCO's use of his official position as Executive Deputy Secretary to the Governor and his far-reaching influence within the Executive Chamber to provide official State favors to the Syracuse Developer and the Energy Company worth millions of dollars.

PERCOCO's Receipt of Bribes from the Energy Company

28. From at least in or about 2012 up through and including at least in or about 2016, Todd Howe and PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," the defendant, arranged for the Energy Company to pay more than \$287,000 in bribes to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in exchange for

PERCOCO'S official assistance to benefit the Energy Company on an as-needed basis.

29. Beginning in or about 2010, PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," the defendant, began offering and providing things of value to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in an effort to obtain PERCOCO's official assistance on behalf of the Energy Company. Beginning in or about 2012, in response to repeated pressure from PERCOCO, KELLY arranged for the Energy Company to create a "low-show" job for PERCOCO's wife that resulted in payment to the PERCOCOs of \$7,500 per month. To conceal the nature and source of the payments, PERCOCO, KELLY, and Howe took the following steps, among others:

a. A consultant who worked for the Energy Company ("Consultant-1") was used as a pass-through to conceal the payments to the PERCOCOs.

b. KELLY, and others at KELLY's direction, purposefully kept PERCOCO's wife's last name and photograph out of certain work related documents and directed PERCOCO's wife to refer to herself by her first name when dealing with certain individuals when doing work for the Energy company.

c. KELLY falsely claimed to other executives

at the Energy Company that he had obtained an ethics opinion from the Governor's office approving the Energy Company's arrangement with PERCOCO's wife.

d. In his required financial disclosure statements for the years 2012 and 2014, PERCOCO represented that his wife was employed by a limited liability company in the name of Consultant-1, and did not list the Energy Company.

30. In exchange for the bribe payments paid through PERCOCO's wife as directed by PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, a/k/a "Braith," the defendant, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, agreed to take, and in fact took, official actions for the benefit of the Energy Company as the opportunity arose. Official actions taken by PERCOCO for the benefit of the Energy Company included, but were not limited to, the following:

a. PERCOCO exerted pressure on and provided advice to other State officials, with the intent that those officials secure for the Energy Company an agreement between a New Jersey state agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC") that would allow the Energy Company to purchase emissions credits in New York worth millions of dollars to the Energy Company in connection with the New Jersey Power Plant.

b. PERCOCO exerted pressure on and provided

advice to other State officials, with the intent that those officials work to secure for the Energy Company a lucrative long-term power purchase agreement (the "PPA") with the State guaranteeing a buyer for the power to be produced by the New York Power Plant.

31. After JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, learned that the Energy Company would not be awarded the PPA, PERCOCO worked with Todd Howe to continue to extort payments from the Energy Company by promising KELLY that PERCOCO would continue to take official action to help the Energy Company obtain the PPA and taking steps to make KELLY believe PERCOCO was continuing to take such action.

PERCOCO'S Receipt of Bribes from the Syracuse Developer

32. From at least in or about August 2014 up through and including at least in or about October 2014, Todd Howe arranged for the Syracuse Developer to pay approximately \$35,000 in bribe payments to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in exchange for PERCOCO's official assistance to the Syracuse Developer on an as-needed basis.

33. To conceal the nature and source of the payments, the Syracuse Developer and Todd Howe arranged to pay JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, through a shell company controlled by Howe.

34. In exchange for the bribe payments paid to JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, by STEVEN AIELLO and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, through Todd Howe's shell company, PERCOCO agreed to take, and in fact took, official actions for the benefit of the Syracuse Developer as the opportunity arose. Official actions taken by PERCOCO for the benefit of the Syracuse Developer included, but were not limited to, the following:

a. PERCOCO exerted pressure on and provided advice to other State officials, with the intent that those officials reverse an adverse decision by the Empire State Development Corporation, which is the State's main economic development agency, that would have required the Syracuse Developer to enter into a costly agreement with labor unions.

b. PERCOCO exerted pressure on and provided advice to other State officials, with the intent that those officials secure the release of millions of dollars in State funds that were owed to the Syracuse Developer.

c. PERCOCO exerted pressure on and provided advice to other State officials, with the intent that those officials secure a raise for the son of STEVEN AIELLO, the defendant, who worked in the Executive Chamber.

COUNT ONE

(Wire Fraud Conspiracy - The Preferred Developer RFPs)

The Grand Jury further charges:

35. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

36. From at least in or about 2013, up to and including in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate, and agree together and with each other to commit wire fraud in violation of Section 1343 of Title 18, United States Code.

37. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, and others known and unknown, willfully, and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, would and did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire and radio communication in interstate and foreign

commerce, writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, to wit, KALOYEROS, AIELLO, GERARDI, CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, SCHULER, and their co-conspirators, devised a scheme to defraud Fort Schuyler in its award of significant taxpayer-funded development contracts by representing to Fort Schuyler that the bidding process for those contracts was fair, open, and competitive, when, in truth and in fact, KALOYEROS and Todd Howe used their official positions to secretly tailor the requests for proposals ("RFPs") for those contracts so that companies that were owned, controlled, and managed by AIELLO, GERARDI, CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER would be favored to win in the selection process for the contracts.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.)

COUNT TWO

(Wire Fraud - The Syracuse RFP)

The Grand Jury further charges:

38. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

39. From in or about 2013, up to and including in or

about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," STEVEN AIELLO, and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, willfully and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire and radio communication in interstate and foreign commerce, writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, to wit, KALOYEROS, AIELLO, and GERARDI devised a scheme to defraud Fort Schuyler in its award of the Syracuse RFP by representing to Fort Schuyler that the bidding process for that contract was fair, open, and competitive, when, in truth and in fact, and as AIELLO and GERARDI well knew, KALOYEROS and Todd Howe used their official positions to secretly tailor the RFP for the Syracuse Preferred Developer contract so that the Syracuse Developer would be favored to win in the selection process for the contract.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.)

COUNT THREE

(Payments of Bribes and Gratuities - The Syracuse RFP)

The Grand Jury further charges:

40. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1

through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

41. From at least in or about 2013 to at least in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, STEVEN AIELLO and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, willfully and knowingly did corruptly give, offer, and agree to give a thing of value to a person, with intent to influence an agent of a State government agency in connection with business, transactions, and series of transactions of such State agency involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government and agency was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, AIELLO and GERARDI paid bribes to Todd Howe in exchange for, to influence, and to reward the taking of official action in his capacity as an agent and representative of SUNY Poly, in connection with obtaining the Syracuse RFP.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(2) and 2.)

COUNT FOUR

(Wire Fraud - The Buffalo RFP)

The Grand Jury further charges:

42. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1

through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

43. From in or about 2013, up to and including in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, willfully and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, did transmit and cause to be transmitted by means of wire and radio communication in interstate and foreign commerce, writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, to wit, KALOYEROS, CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER devised a scheme to defraud Fort Schuyler in its award of the Buffalo RFP by representing to Fort Schuyler that the bidding process for those contracts was fair, open, and competitive, when, in truth and in fact, and as CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER well knew, KALOYEROS and Todd Howe secretly used their official positions to tailor the RFP for the Buffalo Preferred Developer contract so that the Buffalo Developer would be favored to win in the selection process for the contract.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 2.)

COUNT FIVE

(Payments of Bribes and Gratuities - The Buffalo RFP)

The Grand Jury further charges:

44. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

45. From at least in or about 2013 to at least in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, willfully and knowingly did corruptly give, offer, and agree to give a thing of value to a person, with intent to influence an agent of a State government agency in connection with business, transactions, and series of transactions of such State agency involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government and agency was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, CIMINELLI, LAIPPLE, and SCHULER paid bribes to Todd Howe in exchange for, to influence, and to reward the taking of official action in his capacity as an agent and representative of SUNY Poly, in connection with obtaining the Buffalo RFP.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(2) and 2.)

COUNT SIX

(Conspiracy to Commit Extortion Under Color of Official Right)

The Grand Jury further charges:

46. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

47. From at least in or about 2012, up to and including in or about 2016, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, while serving in the Office of the Governor, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate, and agree together and with each other to commit extortion as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(2), that is, by obtaining cash payments from the Energy Company and the Syracuse Developer, with their consent, such consent having been induced under color of official right, and thereby did obstruct, delay, and affect commerce, as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(3), to wit, PERCOCO would and did cause companies with business before the State - namely, the Energy Company and the Syracuse Developer - to direct payments to PERCOCO in exchange for official actions taken or to be taken by PERCOCO for the benefit of the companies paying him.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951).

COUNT SEVEN

(Extortion Under Color of Official Right - The Energy Company)

The Grand Jury further charges:

48. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

49. From at least in or about 2012, up to and including in or about 2016, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, while serving in the Office of the Governor, willfully and knowingly, did commit extortion as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(2), that is, by obtaining cash payments from the Energy Company, with its consent, such consent having been induced under color of official right, and thereby did obstruct, delay, and affect commerce, as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(3), to wit, PERCOCO used his official State position and power and authority within the Office of the Governor to cause the Energy Company to make and direct payments to PERCOCO's wife in exchange for official actions taken and agreed to be taken by PERCOCO.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2).

COUNT EIGHT

(Extortion Under Color of Official Right - The Syracuse Developer)

The Grand Jury further charges:

50. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

51. From at least in or about 2014, up to and including in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, while serving in the Office of the Governor, willfully and knowingly, did commit extortion as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(2), that is, by obtaining cash payments from the Syracuse Developer, with its consent, such consent having been induced under color of official right, and thereby did obstruct, delay, and affect commerce, as that term is defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951(b)(3), to wit, PERCOCO used his official State position and power and authority within the Office of the Governor to cause the Syracuse Developer to make and direct payments to PERCOCO in exchange for official actions taken and agreed to be taken by PERCOCO.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2.)

COUNT NINE

(Conspiracy to Commit Honest Services Fraud)

The Grand Jury further charges:

52. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

53. From at least in or about 2012, up to and including in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," STEVEN AIELLO, and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, Todd Howe, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly did combine, conspire, confederate and agree together and with each other to violate Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 1346.

54. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," STEVEN AIELLO, and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, Todd Howe, and others known and unknown, willfully and knowingly, having devised and intending to devise a scheme and artifice to defraud, and to deprive the public of its intangible right to PERCOCO's honest services as a senior official in the Office of the Governor, would and did transmit

and cause to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate and foreign commerce, writings, signs, signals, pictures, and sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343 and 1346, to wit, PERCOCO, while serving as Executive Deputy Secretary to the Governor, would and did take official action in exchange for bribes paid at the direction of KELLY, AIELLO, and GERARDI.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1349.)

COUNT TEN

(Solicitation of Bribes and Gratuities from The Energy Company)

The Grand Jury further charges:

55. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

56. From at least in or about 2012, up to and including in or about 2016, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, being an agent and representative of a State government, to wit, a senior official in the Office of the Governor, corruptly solicited and demanded for the benefit of a person, and accepted and agreed to accept, a thing of value from a person, intending to be influenced and rewarded in connection with a business,

transaction, and series of transactions of such government involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, PERCOCO solicited and accepted cash and things of value from the Energy Company in exchange for official actions by PERCOCO and with the intent that PERCOCO be influenced and rewarded.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(1)(B) and 2.)

COUNT ELEVEN

(Solicitation of Bribes and Gratuities from the Syracuse Developer)

The Grand Jury further charges:

57. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

58. From at least in or about 2014, up to and including in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, being an agent and representative of a State government, to wit, a senior official in the Office of the Governor, corruptly solicited and demanded for the benefit of a person, and accepted

and agreed to accept, a thing of value from a person, intending to be influenced and rewarded in connection with a business, transaction, and series of transactions of such government involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, PERCOCO solicited and accepted cash and things of value from the Syracuse Developer in exchange for official actions by PERCOCO and with the intent that PERCOCO be influenced and rewarded.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(1)(B) and 2.)

COUNT TWELVE

(Payments of Bribes and Gratuities - The Energy Company)

The Grand Jury further charges:

59. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

60. From at least in or about 2012 to at least in or about 2016, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," the defendant, who was an executive at the Energy Company, willfully and knowingly did corruptly give, offer, and agree to give a thing of value to

a person, with intent to influence an agent of a State government, in connection with business, transactions, and series of transactions of such government, involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, KELLY paid JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in exchange for, to influence, and to reward the taking of official action to benefit the Energy Company, including to advance the development of the New York and New Jersey Power Plants.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(2) and 2.)

COUNT THIRTEEN

(Payments of Bribes and Gratuities - The Syracuse Developer)

The Grand Jury further charges:

61. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

62. From at least in or about 2014 to at least in or about 2015, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, STEVEN AIELLO and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, who were executives at the Syracuse Developer, willfully and knowingly did corruptly give, offer, and agree to give a thing of value to

a person, with intent to influence an agent of a State government, in connection with business, transactions, and series of transactions of such government, involving a thing of value of \$5,000 and more, while such government was in receipt of, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, and other form of Federal assistance, to wit, AIELLO and GERARDI paid JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, in exchange for, to influence, and to reward the taking of official action to benefit the Syracuse Developer, including advancing its development projects in the State.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 666(a)(2) and 2.)

COUNT FOURTEEN

(False Statements to Federal Officers)

The Grand Jury further charges:

63. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 34 above are hereby repeated, realleged, and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

64. On or about June 21, 2016, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, STEVEN AIELLO and JOSEPH GERARDI, the defendants, willfully and knowingly did make materially false, fictitious, and fraudulent statements and representations in a matter within the jurisdiction of the

executive branch of the Government of the United States, to wit, AIELLO and GERARDI, while meeting with federal agents and representatives of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, each made statements denying involvement in paying JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," the defendant, and in tailoring a request for proposal for the benefit of their company, the Syracuse Developer, when, in truth and in fact, AIELLO and GERARDI directed payments to PERCOCO and conspired to tailor a request for proposal for the benefit of their company.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001(a)(2).)

FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS

65. As the result of committing the offenses charged in Counts One through Thirteen of this Indictment, JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb," ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K," PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a "Braith," STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI, LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and KEVIN SCHULER, the defendants, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), any and all property, real and personal, that constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the commission of said offenses, including but not limited to a sum of money in United States currency representing

the amount of proceeds traceable to the commission of said offenses.

Substitute Asset Provision

66. If any of the above-described forfeitable property, as a result of any act or omission of the defendants:

a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;

b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;

c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;

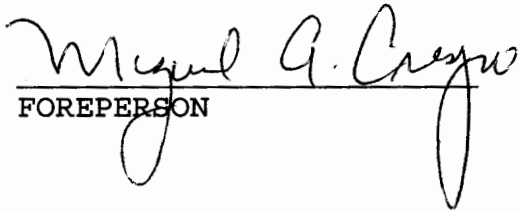
d. has been substantially diminished in value;
or

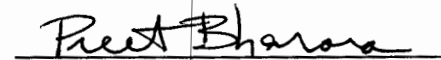
e. has been commingled with other property that cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), to seek forfeiture of any other property

of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable property.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981; Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p); Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.)


FOREPERSON


PREET BHARARA
United States Attorney

Form No. USA-33s-274 (Ed. 9-25-58)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- v. -

JOSEPH PERCOCO, a/k/a "Herb,"
ALAIN KALOYEROS, a/k/a "Dr. K,"
PETER GALBRAITH KELLY, JR., a/k/a
"Braith," STEVEN AIELLO, JOSEPH GERARDI,
LOUIS CIMINELLI, MICHAEL LAIPPLE, and
KEVIN SCHULER

Defendants.

INDICTMENT

16 Cr.

(18 U.S.C. Sections 1951, 1349, 1343,
666(a)(1)(B), 666(a)(2), 1001(a)(2) and
2.)

PREET BHARARA

United States Attorney.

Myra A. Cregan

Nov. 22.16

Filed Indictment case assigned to Judge Caproni
U.S.M.J. Debra Freeman.

